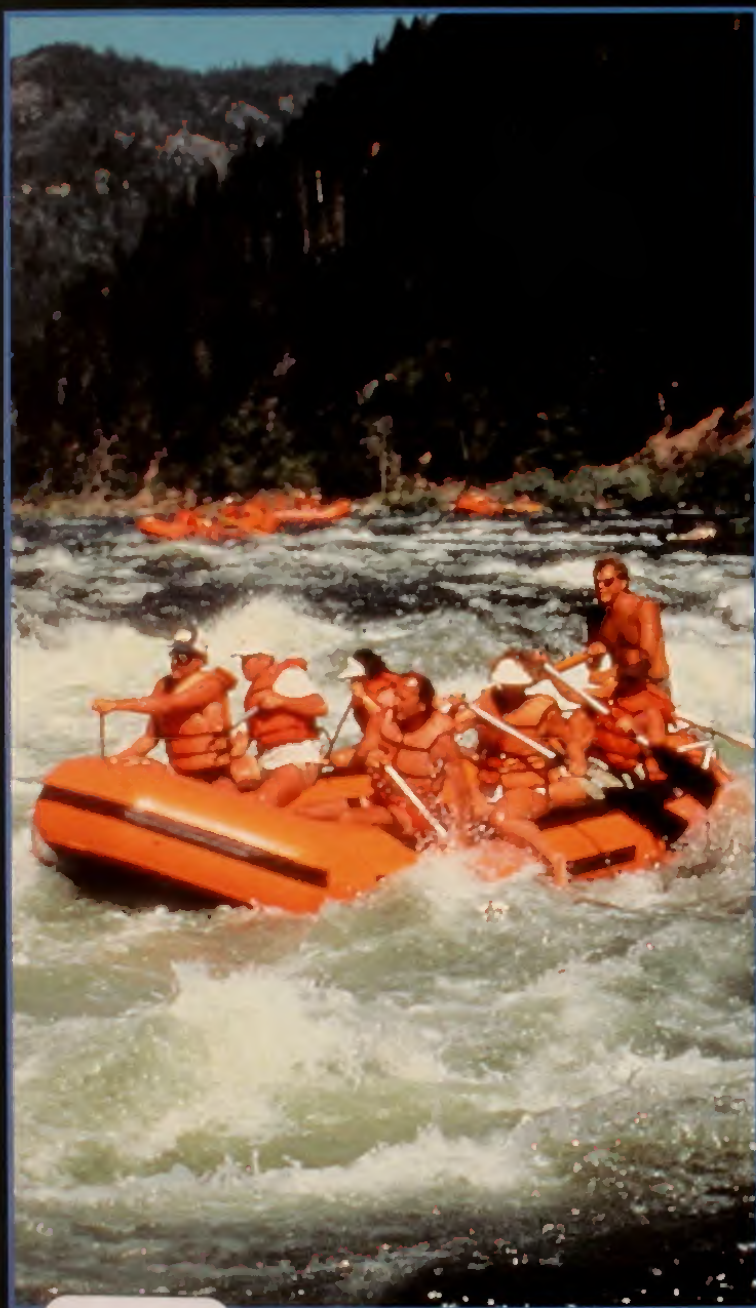




# AMERICA'S

## *Rivers and Streams on the Public Lands*



# TREASURES

Imagine areas where you can experience a thrilling white-water rafting ride. Embark on an exciting fishing excursion where you might land the big one. Watch wildlife in its natural state. Seek solitude in a sometimes quiet place. Whatever your desire may be, America's rivers on public lands offer you outstanding opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors.

Rivers have long served as the unpaved highways and byways of America. They have carried us on our spiritual journeys and transported us on our commercial ventures. Native Americans and pioneers alike traveled the rivers much as we use our roads and interstate highways today. The rivers carried them on frontier expeditions and served as major trade routes, such as the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark Expedition on the Missouri River. The Missouri is but one of the many important rivers managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), an agency within the Department of the Interior.

The BLM manages a wide spectrum of rivers and segments of rivers in 12 western states including Alaska. These rivers are being managed to protect their unique natural and historic values, to provide recreational opportunities, and to reduce user conflicts.

### WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

Congress enacted the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs) Act in 1968 to balance the need to retain selected rivers in their natural free-flowing condition and to develop some of the Nation's rivers for hydropower purposes.

Since passage of the Act, more than 10,000 miles of America's rivers have been designated as components of the National WSRs System. The BLM administers more than 32 WSRs — approximately 20 percent of all rivers in the System.

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## BLM Floatable River Information



## USE, SHARE, AND APPRECIATE OUR RIVERS

### USE

- Pack It In, Pack It Out
- Carry Out Litter and Human Waste
- Camp Only in Suitable Areas
- Keep a Clean Camp-Use Biodegradable Soap
- Use Only Dead and Downed Wood
- Make Sure Your Fire Is Completely Out
- Wear Your Life Jacket
- Use a Fire Pan or Camp Stove
- Know Your Limitations, Resources, and Equipment
- Think Safety, Travel in Pairs
- Plan Your Trip - Let Someone Know Your Schedule
- Be Prepared - Carry First Aid Kit and Proper Equipment

### SHARE

- Respect the Rights of Others
- Be Courteous and Helpful - Your Attitude Shows
- Leave Gates as You Find Them
- Care Enough to Do a Little - You Can Make a Difference
- Observe All Laws - Report Violators

### APPRECIATE

- Tread Lightly - Leave No Trace
- Enjoy It - Protect It - Conserve It
- Be a Part of the Solution - Not a Part of the Problem

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Denver Federal Center  
Bldg. 50, OC-521  
P.O. Box 25047  
Denver, CO 80225

## WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION

To be eligible for WSR designation, a river must be free-flowing and contain at least one "outstandingly remarkable value." These resource values may include scenery, recreation, geological, fish, wildlife, historic, or cultural resources, and other similar values. Although most rivers are designated by an Act of Congress, the Secretary of the Interior can also designate a river upon a State Governor's request.



Designated rivers are classified as either wild, scenic, or recreational and are defined by the WSRs Act as follows:

"Wild" - rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

"Scenic" - rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

"Recreational" - rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shoreline, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

## FLOATABLE RIVERS

The BLM manages over 9,000 miles of floatable rivers on or adjacent to land used for recreation. Special recreation permits are required for commercial river use, such as professionally outfitted or guided river trips and competitive river events. Permits may also be required for individual or private group use when necessary to maintain use levels or protect river resources. Fees are charged to recover at least a portion of the costs of administering the permit system. The collected fees are used to help manage the rivers from where the money is collected.





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